

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from the Schweinrich Troop Training Grounds

619065

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 29 March 1954

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

UNCODED

25X1

1. At about 5:30 p.m. on 25 February, all units stationed in the Neuglienicke area left toward Raegelin. After the departure of the troops, all was quiet in this area, except for individual trucks.

25X1

2. On 2 and 3 March, exercise which involved 5 tanks and 80 infantrymen were held in the Rheinstberg-Zechow-Braunberg area. Troops and tanks proceeded from Zechow as far as Rheinsberger Sandberge (hills) were targets had been emplaced.

25X1

3. In the morning and afternoon of 3 March, each one column of 11 trucks went to Schweinrich, coming from the direction of Neuruppin. The trucks presumably came from Wulkow and carried ammunition. On the day of observation, the Schweinrich area was occupied by only a guard detail.

4. At about 6 a.m. on 2 March, new units arrived in the Rheinsberg-Braunberg-Zechow area. On 3 March, Soviet field-grade officers arrived in Neuglienicke on 4 sedans and inspected the terrain. Between 11 p.m. on 4 March and 7 a.m. on 5 March, tank, AT, AAA, artillery and motor transport units from the Rheinsberg-Zechow-Braunberg area and from the direction of Neuruppin were being assembled in the Neuglienicke area. The Rheinsberg-Raegelin road was the main approach road. About 20 tanks, 10 x 80-mm (sic) AA guns, 7 x 100-mm to 120-mm guns, 10 AT guns and 30 trucks with troops were identified. The troops occupied available positions or built new ones in Jagen (forest section) Nos 91, 92, 115, 138 and 139. At 10 a.m., the attack started from positions about 2 kilometers west of the Neuruppin-Wittstock road, with the troops firing toward west between Raegelin and Fretzdorf. The exercise terminated at about 6 p.m. The troops left toward Neuglienicke and Neuruppin.

25X1

1

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

SECRET/

- 2 -

5. During the night on 9 March, tank, AAA, artillery, AT and motor transport units approached the Schweinrich troop training grounds from all directions for maneuvers, involving a red and a white party.

25X1

6. On 4 March, it was announced in Schweinrich that, effective 5 March, the training area was off limits because of firing practices.
7. Between 5 and 11 March, 2 to 3 troop trains, mostly empty, were daily seen on the Wittstock-Dranse railroad line from Klein-Hasslow. More troop trains ran during the night. On 5 March, a train carrying 10 tanks, and 7 trucks; and including 4 converted boxcars was seen leaving Dranse toward Wittstock.

8. On 7 March, [redacted] in Dranse [redacted] tanks and trucks had been loaded and unloaded. [redacted] trucks and troops had been entrained in Wittstock on 11 March.

25X1

1. [redacted] Comment. The information tends to indicate that units of the 12th Gds Tank Div also conducted small-scale field exercises in the area east of the firing lanes west of Neuglienicke. On 5 March, major elements of the division conducted exercises in the south section of the Wittstock troop training grounds in which, according to weapons, the 75th AAA Bn also participated. [redacted] the units of the 2d Light Arty Brig [redacted] which had been detrained in Altruippin and had left toward Neuglienicke on 4 March and [redacted] returned from Netzeband to Doeberitz [redacted] on 6 March, also participated in the exercise.

25X1

25X1

25X1

2. [redacted] Comment. Large elements of the 25th Tank Div and units of the 6th Gds Mecz Div and the 71st Light Arty Brig conducted exercises in the Miron-Neuruppin area from 6 to 10 March. [redacted] The exercises, which are fairly definitely believed to have developed from north to south, apparently terminated at the Wittstock troop training grounds. [redacted] the units involved were entrained on 10 and 11 March, with some of the troops leaving from the Dranse and Wittstock railroad stations.

25X1

25X1

SECRET/